



ALITIMES



December 9, 2005

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Vol. 3, Issue 47
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Out and about: Contracting

Col. Don Palandech,
407th Air Expeditionary Group commander, visits Team Ali.

In the 407th Air Expeditionary Group Contracting Squadron I found the Airmen who know the most about what this group is doing.

This exceptional group is small in numbers, but their impact on this group is huge. They are integral to the mission success of this group in many ways.

The first part of the 407th AEG's mission is to run a first class air base. Every squadron is committed to that mission; each is trying to do it to the best of their ability. When you order new items to improve your squadron the purchase order goes to contracting and they make the purchase. So, they know everything that every squadron is getting.

Another part of the group mission is to support the development of a free and democratic Iraq. The contracting squadron has a big role in that in two ways. First, they look to the local community vendors to see if people here can supply the goods you require. Additionally, they are working with the local people to instruct them on how U.S. law directs



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Paul Dean

Colonel Palandech and two Airmen assigned to the 407th AEG Contracting Squadron, Capt. Kim M. Arnold (right), squadron commander, and Staff Sgt. Ryan Johnson, talk with a local vendor.

the bidding process be conducted. In this way they open the door to local companies to compete for the projects that we need completed on the base.

These Airmen are meeting the Iraqi people and have developed an in-depth knowledge of what the local community is about.

So the next time you want to know exactly what the 407 AEG is doing, you need to look to an Airmen from contracting squadron, because they are in the know!

TSP announces enrollment changes for 2006

12/8/2005 - **RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFPN)** — Effective in 2006, civilian and military employees are no longer subject to a percentage limit on the amount they may contribute to a regular Thrift Savings Plan account.

They may contribute the full amount allowed by the Internal Revenue Service annual elective deferral limit, which is \$15,000 for 2006.

Open seasons were eliminated July 1, 2005, so employees may start, change, stop or resume their TSP contributions at any time (except those in the 6-month non-contribution period following a financial hardship in-service withdrawal).

Partial changes to military participants (see site below for complete details):

Effective in 2006, military members can contribute any whole percentage of their base pay, as long as the annual total of tax-deferred investment doesn't exceed \$15,000 for 2006.

Airmen also have the ability to invest all or part of their bonuses, special pay or incentive pay, as long as the member contributes from basic pay.

Members may enroll in December, however, requested actions will not update until Jan. 1. Those serving in tax-free combat zones are allowed up to \$44,000 in annual contributions.

Information on TSP investment funds is available on the TSP Web site at: www.tsp.gov/rates/fundsheets.html

Front Page photo

Left to right: Tech. Sgt. Al Barrie (ECONS), Mr. Jamal, Lt. Col. Jerry Perkins (AEG) and Staff Sgt. Aaron Lacey (ECES) cut the ribbon to officially reopen the Bedrock south parking lot Dec. 9.

Photo by Tech. Sgt. Paul Dean



Air Force releases new mission statement

By Master Sgt. Mitch Gettle

Air Force Print News

12/8/2005, WASHINGTON (AFPN) —

The realities of the world have changed dramatically since the creation of the Air Force in 1947 and continue to change almost daily.

With these changes in mind, Air Force leaders released a new mission statement Dec. 7 that defines the current and future direction of the Air Force.

"Today, our world is fast paced, constantly shifting and filled with a wide range of challenges," Secretary of the Air Force Michael W. Wynne and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. T. Michael Moseley wrote in a joint Letter to Airmen. "Our mission is our guiding compass, and it must be clearer than ever before."

The mission statement defines the "where and what" the Air Force accomplishes on a daily basis:

The mission of the United States Air Force is to deliver sovereign options for the defense of the United States of America and its global interests — to fly and fight in Air, Space, and Cyberspace.

The statement includes two new concepts, "sovereign options" and "cyberspace," which the secretary and chief defined.

They said having sovereign options is the essence of being a superpower.

"Our task is to provide the National Command Authority and the combatant commanders with an array of options ... options that are not limited by the

tyranny of distance, the urgency of time, or the strength of our enemy's defenses," they said. "With one hand the Air Force can deliver humanitarian assistance to the farthest reaches of the globe, while with the other hand we can destroy a target anywhere in the world."

The term cyberspace includes network security, data transmission and the sharing of information.

"We have quite a few of our Airmen dedicated to cyberspace ... from security awareness, making sure the networks can't be penetrated, as well as figuring out countermeasures," Secretary Wynne said. "The Air Force is a natural leader in the cyber world and we thought it would be best to recognize that talent."

Adversaries of the United States will use any method or venue necessary to contest America, and it is an Airman's calling to dominate air, space and cyberspace, the leaders said.

"If we can decisively and consistently dominate our assigned commons, then we will deter countless conflicts," they said. "If our enemies are foolish and underestimate our resolve, then we will fly, fight, and destroy them."

Using past air power pioneers as examples of understanding the mission, they said, "Our new mission statement has evolved over time, but it does not change the nature of who we are or what we do."

0-6 select gets news at Ali Base

By Tech. Sgt. Paul Dean

407th Air Expeditionary Group Public Affairs

Lt. Col. Kyle Lampela, deputy commander for operations and chief of safety of the 407th Air Expeditionary Group was notified this week of his selection for promotion to colonel. He's scheduled to pin on sometime mid-2006.

"This is fantastic," said the colonel. "To find out while I'm here—deployed with the 407th in Iraq—makes it even more special."

Colonel Lampela is deployed from the 306th Flying Training

Group, U.S. Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, Colo., where he serves as the deputy group commander. He was commissioned after graduating from the Academy in 1984.

The colonel has worked with several great mentors during his more than 21 years of Air Force service, attributing lessons learned from them and the Air Force climate as his reasons for sticking with it.

"The Air Force has a great perspective on fulfilling the mission



Air Force photo

Lt. Col. Kyle Lampela

while also being able to be a good family man," he said. "The people who I've respected and learned the most from are those who were able to balance a successful Air Force career with being an attentive parent and spouse."

Successful deployments have three main ingredients

By Senior Master Sgt. Michael J. Klintworth

407th Expeditionary Operations Support Squadron first sergeant

Now that we're more than half-way through our rotation it's important to know whether we are on the right track—if we "Team Ali" are being successful. So are we?

As I make my way around Ali Base I can't help but notice the overwhelming amount of fat people. Why are they so fat? Maybe the cause is the dining facility; folks can get all the ice cream they want; there are awesome white chocolate macadamia nut, chocolate chip and oatmeal cookies; or just maybe it's the heaping servings one receives while going through the main coarse line. Actually it's none of these because I'm not referring to a physical attribute but a mental one.

These fat troops are warriors who are *focused* on the mission; have the right *attitude* and exhibit a sense of *teamwork*—FAT.

The clear focus of "Team Ali" is on the mission. We've provided critical training to Iraqi air force Airmen, contributing to the stand-up of Squadron 23 (Transport). We've accommodated and ensured the safe transportation of 4,900 aircraft, more than 2,800 short tons of cargo and more than 19,800 people into and out of Ali Base. We've guaranteed the safe passage of more than 28,000 Coalition and commercial aircraft through the southern third of Iraq. And finally, through a variety of Coalition force information gathering platforms, we've enabled the collection of command and control intelligence and transferred that information to the Combined Air Operations Center, allowing our leaders to

make informed decisions. The focus doesn't get any better than that and likely wouldn't be as clear without the right attitude.

So what is the right attitude? It's a "positive, can-do" attitude, and because attitudes are contagious, they are vital to a team or organization's morale and success. There are many instances where our positive attitudes contributed to our mission. A good example is when our post office received an unexpected surge in incoming mail. To no surprise, some gave of their free time to assist in sorting the mail which enabled on-time pickup and delivery. Another example was seen as more than 100 "Team Ali" members dedicated time and effort to clearing debris from the airfield. In the end five truckloads of foreign object debris was removed, ensuring a safer operating environment for our aircraft.

As you can see a positive attitude is important to meeting mission objectives, but so is teamwork.

So really how important is teamwork? Let's think back to the 2003 Major League Baseball World Series where the New York Yankees met the Florida Marlins. It can be assumed that the Yankees had some of the best "individual" talent in the league;



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Paul Dean

Senior Master Sgt. Michael J. Klintworth

their payroll was a little more than \$149 million compared to the \$48 million payroll of the Marlins. During the regular season the Yankees had a higher batting average and lower pitching earned run average compared to the Marlins. But in the end the Marlins won the series. The difference was teamwork. We too have experienced that same type of difference. Take for example the day the area control center (radar air traffic control facility) team experienced simultaneous equipment malfunctions amid a severe dust storm: failure of the radar system, the only aircraft navigational aid and the primary communication line to an adjacent air traffic control facility. The group of controllers combined efforts to assume a 100 percent workload increase and ensure the safety of 32 aircraft operating within their airspace jurisdiction. Again teamwork was the difference.

So are we on the right track? Are we successful? No doubt about it. And it's because of you FAT warriors!

777th EAS AST does good, Iraqi air force C-130 crew takes charge First solo mission complete!

By Tech. Sgt. Paul Dean

407th Air Expeditionary Group Public Affairs

Iraq's Air Force grew more self-reliant Nov. 29 when a six-man crew flew a C-130 Hercules mission to Baghdad without Coalition advisory support team (AST) assistance.

"This is a very good day for the Iraqi Air Force; these are very important days and the Americans have done well training us to do our best," said the 23rd Squadron's (Transport) navigator and deputy commander. The Iraqi lieutenant colonel and other squadron members are not identified by name for security reasons.

The flight started at Ali Air Base, the squadron's home for the next several weeks. A permanent move to New Al Muthana Air Base at Baghdad International Airport is scheduled for the end of January.

The Iraqi Air Force transport squadron stood up Jan. 14 with three C-130s gifted by the United States and has been flying missions since. But until Nov. 29, there has always been at least one instructor from the U.S. Air Force's 777th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron AST on board.



Photo by Senior Master Sgt. James Baarda

Iraqi air force airmen belonging to Iraqi air force Squadron 23 (Transport) take care of their mission brief aboard YI-301, the first Iraqi C-130 to fly a mission with a full Iraqi aircrew and no advisory support team members aboard. The flight occurred Nov. 29. Takeoff was at 11 a.m. local time.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Paul Dean

The first Iraqi air force C-130 to fly without an advisory support team member on board was also launched by Iraqi maintainers.

"I am so very happy," said the squadron's quality assurance officer. "This is the first time since the war that we [prepared] the plane and fly in the skies of Iraq. This is a great day for Iraq and America."

Squadron members lined the ramp to make a "number one" gesture or give thumbs up as the C-130 rolled out of its parking spot. There was a different feeling in the cockpit as the pilot, copilot, flight engineer, navigator and two loadmasters took to the skies of Iraq on their historic mission.

"This is what makes us happy. We are flying for the new Iraqi Air Force and for freedom," said another pilot, who flew in the copilot seat for the mission to pick up squadron members returning from leave.

Continued next page:

IAF

USAF Thunderbirds looking for volunteers

By Staff Sgt. Josh Clendenen

Thunderbirds Public Affairs

The United States Air Force Air Demonstration Squadron is looking for professionals to join an elite team known world-wide for precision flying and community involvement.

Volunteers are needed in eight career fields.

"The Thunderbirds have more than 34 career fields represented in the squadron," said Chief Master Sgt. Ted Field, chief enlisted manager of the Thunderbirds. "We have a job for just about everyone out there."

The Air Force Specialty Codes

needed are 2A3X2 Avionics, 2A3X3B Crew Chief, 2A6X3 Egress, 2A6X4 Fuels, 2A6X6 Electro/Environmental, 2A7X3 Structures, 3N0X1 Public Affairs, 3V0X1 Graphic Artist and 8F000 First Sergeant.

For information on the application process, visit www.airforce.com/thunderbirds.

"Even if (a) career field is not listed, we are accepting applications," Chief Field said. "Anyone can submit an application for a job in one of the (34) career fields we have. We'll keep the

application on file for six months, and if a job comes open we will look at the applications we have and we'll try to fill them with those."

One of the common misconceptions about the Thunderbirds is the team is gone all the time.

"We do travel across the United States and in some cases across the world," Chief Field said. "But we're not gone all the time. We have a good amount of time at home, but we do travel."

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TBIRDS

IAF

from page 5

"Now (the Iraqi Air Force) has to get bigger and bigger with more men; Iraqis all over the world should be happy about today."

The Iraqi air crew began their training in the United States in 2005, completed simulator training there and returned to Iraq for flight training. They all had prior experience flying other aircraft in Saddam Hussein's air force.

U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Michael Bauer, 777th EAS commander, and U.S. Air Force Maj. Roger Redwood, 777th EAS Squadron 23 AST operations flight commander, have shared the task of transitioning and training the Iraqi air crew at Ali Base.

"The instructors worked hard. The Iraqi's worked hard. This is a critical step in post war Iraq as they stand up a military, a government and a country," Bauer said. "It is a proud moment for all of us to see Iraqi's flying their own planes in their own country."

"This is the right thing, the right way for Iraq," Redwood said. "This is a really big step, and although we still have a ways to go until the Iraqi Air Force is fully functional and self-sufficient, this is a great confidence builder."

Advisory support team members who trained the Iraqi ground crew also shared the glory of the moment.

"Seeing your students go out, taking the steps on their own for the first time – it's like seeing your kids or somebody in your family doing great things," said U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. John Furber, a squadron maintenance instructor and adviser.

Squadron members and advisers gathered on the airfield ramp for a traditional Iraqi celebration when the C-130 Hercules landed.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Paul Dean

The first all-Iraqi crew C-130 mission leaves the parking area.

Thousands of miles apart but sharing a special event

Story and photos by Tech. Sgt. Paul Dean

407th Air Expeditionary Group Public Affairs

Thousands of miles between Ali Base, Iraq, and Grand Forks Air Force Base, N.D., were bridged by video teleconference for a promotion ceremony Nov. 30.

Nicole Dye, deployed from the 319th Communications Squadron, Grand Forks, as Executive Officer of the 407th Air Expeditionary Group was promoted to the rank of major, while her husband, Maj. Ray Barben, squadron commander of the 319th Contracting Squadron, Grand Forks, watched, listened and joined in the occasion.

"It's great that we could make the world a smaller place for a little while," said 407th AEG Commander Col. Don Palandech. "The technology wasn't being used for an immediate mission so we were able to share the occasion between those who care deeply about [Major Dye in Grand Forks] and those who care about her here. Instead of this being one of those important life events that somebody misses out on because of the mission, we all had a chance to share in it together."

More than 30 Airmen filled the 407th AEG Conference Room at Ali Base and a dozen or so filled the television image broadcast from Grand Forks (including Major Dye's squadron commander, Lt. Col. Richard Sison), as Colonel Palandech made opening remarks and read the promotion order.

"I was humbled by the words of Colonel Palandech; and to be promoted here, while doing a mission... it's a great day," said Major Dye. "We all train to perform our mission in these environments. We all came together and became a tight-knit group quickly, and I'm



Newly promoted Maj. Nicole Dye is "pinned" by 407th Air Expeditionary Group Commander Col. Don Palandech (left) and 407th AEG Deputy Commander Lt. Col. Jerry Perkins Nov. 30 in the 407th AEG Conference Room.

honored that my promotion happened while I was here."

"Knowing that [Major Dye] would be promoted over there, I expected to get some e-mail photos and a recap of the event afterwards. However, I never expected to actually be a part of the ceremony in real time...that was truly awesome!," said Major Barben. "To be able to see and participate in her ceremony ranks as one of the most memorable moments of my career and our life together."

Col. Palandech often referred to Major Dye as a true warrior in his opening remarks and emphasized how deserving she is of the promotion to field grade officer. He



Maj. Nicole Dye (left) repeats the Officers' Oath, which was read by her husband, Maj. Ray Barben, (on TV screen), at Grand Forks Air Force Base, N.D.

said he was honored to preside over the ceremony.

"[Major Dye] is extremely intelligent and an upbeat leader. She'll make a great field grade officer and commander; she has all

Continued next page:

SHARING

Air Force headlines

Health program will help returning troops

Servicemembers returning from deployments will now participate in a post-deployment health reassessment program that all the services are instituting. The new program will assess the health — both physical and mental — of servicemembers from 90 to 120 days after they have redeployed. The new program is in addition to the routine post-deployment health screening all servicemembers returning to the states from a deployment go through. The new reassessment program is designed to find servicemembers whose symptoms don't show up immediately. The program will be instituted in January 2006.

Key elements of the program include outreach to servicemembers, education and training for servicemembers and their families, screening of servicemembers, assessment by medical professionals, evaluation and treatment and follow-up.

The Air Force plan calls for Airmen to answer an online survey which the service will incorporate with the members' annual physicals.

For more information, read the Air Force Print News story at

www.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123012800

Guard, reserve news: TRICARE reserve family demonstration benefit extended

The TRICARE Reserve Family Demonstration Benefit has been extended through Oct. 31, 2007. The benefit was extended an additional two years to ensure continuity of care for family members of approximately 170,000 National Guard and Reserve members called to active duty for more than 30 days in support of operations Noble Eagle/Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

The demonstration waives the TRICARE annual deductible for family members who use TRICARE Extra

or Standard; waives the pre-authorization requirement for non-emergency inpatient civilian care at civilian hospitals; and authorizes TRICARE to pay non-participating providers up to 115 percent of the TRICARE maximum allowable charge.

National Guard and Reserve members and family members with questions or in need of assistance may use the TRICARE Yellow Pages available at www.tricare.osd.mil/yellowpages to contact their TRICARE regional contractor. Up-to-date TRICARE information is also available on the TRICARE Web site at www.tricare.osd.mil/reserve.

For more information, read the Air Force Print News story at

www.af.mil/news/story.asp?storyID=123012724

Virtual commissary opens for business

Virtual Commissary will open up "new options" of Internet shopping for authorized users and includes a variety of gift baskets. To access Virtual Commissary, shoppers must pass through a secure portal found under the shopping link at www.commissaries.com. Personal information entered by the customer is validated to ensure they are an authorized shopper. Access is dependent on whether the customer is entered in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System.

Virtual Commissary customers can make selections and fill in their payment and shipping information in one easy and secure step before being transferred to the manufacturer's site to receive the total cost for the product, including shipping. Payment for orders can be made with any credit card accepted in "real" commissaries. Customer information is not archived by DeCA.

For more information, read the story at www.af.mil/news/story.asp?storyID=123012726

SHARING, from page 7



Maj. Ray Barben, husband of Maj. Nicole Dye, participates in her promotion ceremony from Grand Forks Air Force Base, N.D., Nov. 30.

the ingredients to go a long way in the Air Force," said Colonel Palandech.

Major Barben agreed.

"I am so proud of [Major Dye] and the job she is doing over there. As a fellow officer, best friend and spouse, she sets an example of taking care of people and the mission that inspires me on a daily basis," Major Barben said.

The video teleconference will only be part of the family story in years to come: Major Barben also

pinned on his oak leaf at Ali Base last year while deployed as squadron commander, 407th Expeditionary Contracting Squadron. Major Dye was deployed to Italy—working in the Combined Air Operations Center 5— at the time of her husband's promotion, which wasn't linked by teleconference.

The majors met while enrolled in the ROTC program at Bowling Green State University, Ohio, and have been married for 10 years.



Photos by Senior Airman Jennifer Haas

The holiday season kicked off Dec. 2 with a Christmas Tree lighting and carols. The practiced carolers on stage led a Big Top full of energetic participants in five holiday favorites.



407th AEG Superintendent Chief Master Sgt. Cindy Davis goes for that high note. Did she reach it?



The tree.



Consequences were severe if Senior Master Sgt. William Megnin caught somebody without a song in their heart.



"Sing carols."
"Out loud?"
"You must be joking!"
Airman 1st Class Ryan Logan.



Capt. Craig Cowley, 407th ESVS commander, thanks Tech. Sgt. Marina Moore (right) and Senior Airman Nicole Palermo for their efforts decorating the tree and the Big Top.

security has many parts

S-2

serving the base defense mission

By Senior Master Sgt. Bradford Paslay

407th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron Intelligence Branch superintendent

Accurate information is an integral part of planning for any successful combat operation. No one wants to go to the fight without knowing who the enemy is, how many there are, and what capabilities they possess. It is the job of the 407th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron Intelligence Branch (S-2) to provide that information and much more.

The 407 ESFS performs an aggressive combat-security mission at Ali Base, routinely achieved with a level of tactical intelligence not mirrored anywhere else in the Area of Operations.

One officer, two enlisted personnel, and DoD linguists make up the 407th ESFS S-2, providing the defense force commander with timely, actionable intelligence to support intel-driven operations. These requirements range from background information on local militia groups, to enemy courses of action, enemy tactics, techniques and procedures and most importantly, a persistent awareness of the battlespace in our tactical area of operations.

Persistent awareness of the battlespace is accomplished by gathering information from various resources including the media, local population, and rigorous patrol debriefs. Members of the S-2 cell frequently join off-base combat patrols to gather information and conduct terrain analysis. All information collected is then screened to determine applicability to the base defense mission.

The information is then provided to the base defense operations

section to plan effective defense operations to counter expected enemy activity. The past and expected future enemy activity coupled with the projected defense force counter actions it is disseminated to all base defense forces daily during an operations and intelligence briefing. In addition to this daily planning and execution, the 407th ESFS S-2 hosts a weekly "intelligence fusion" to foster a "cross-talk" with intelligence representatives of all local Coalition forces. This fusion ensures information is shared among, security forces, Air Force intelligence, Air Force Office of Special Investigations, U.S. Army, British Forces and the Italian Joint Task Force covering an area of operations spanning from An Nasiriyah to Al Basra.

S-2 Defenders are Security Forces members performing as a ground defense intelligence team exclusively responsible for monitoring and assimilating information as it flows in at the strategic, operational, and tactical levels. This evaluation differs from the work that Air Force intelligence performs, in that it is specific to the base defense mission which has the instant organic capability to concentrate major fire power at the first detection of enemy contact. The most significant information digested by security forces members on the frontline happens at the tactical level, where a mission can change in seconds as patrol

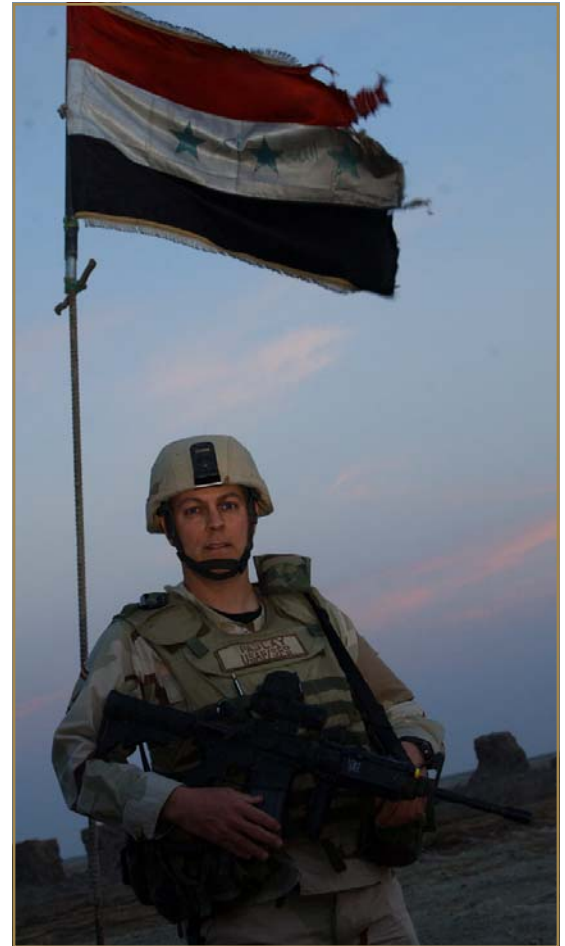


Photo by Tech. Sgt. Paul Dean

Senior Master Sgt. Bradford Paslay

leaders are faced with orienting, taking charge, and executing action in line with the commanders intent and based on the information they moved out with.

S-2 Defenders do not operate in a bubble, though. When the looking glass is pulled out of the field and tactical level and applied to the entire AOR, strategic information and intelligence take on a much more significant context.

Continued next page:

S-2

TBIRDS

from page 6

During the season, a typical week begins on Thursday when the team travels to its show site. Pilots fly their aircraft and support personnel typically travel in a C-17. As soon as the jets touch down, technicians recover their aircraft and perform post-flight tasks. Meanwhile, public affairs prepares for enlistment and re-enlistment ceremonies, media interviews and orientation flights.

Communications specialists videotape the arrival and landing. The advance pilot, having arrived the day before, briefs the team on subjects including transportation and the weather.

Friday is usually a practice day, giving the Thunderbird pilots an opportunity to become familiar with the terrain and local landmarks. Crew chiefs and their assistants attend to pre-flight tasks.

After the practice flight, the team meets with members of the community whose special needs



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Justin D. Pyle

May 27, 2005 - Staff Sgt. Scott Grabham, crew chief for the United States Air Force "Thunderbirds, fills out forms after a successful day of flying in New York.

might prevent them from attending a crowded show. On Saturday and Sunday, the team flies its full show and meets with the crowd to sign autographs for 20 minutes.

On Monday, the team heads back to Nellis AFB, Nev., then goes back to work Tuesday.

"It seems really busy, and to some extent it is, but the people you get to meet with on the road make it all worthwhile," Chief Field said.

"The bottom line is an assignment to the Thunderbirds is the chance of a lifetime," the chief said.

S-2

from page 10

It is at this point Air Force intelligence attachments in support of force protection become instrumental. When actions in our AO mirror significant activity throughout the AOR, you are quickly reminded, you are not just at Ali, you are in Iraq.

The AF Intelligence attachment in support of force protection displays a shift in paradigm that highlights the fact that knowledge is power and intelligence is just as important to the Air Force fighter on the ground as it is to the Air Force fighter in the air. This team effort ensures an operation that is intel-driven and effects-based. The Desert Hunter team truly executes its mission with a mantra: *See First, Understand First, Act First.*

Success has been achieved on numerous occasions that most residents of Ali Base and Camp Adder will never even know about. More often than not, significant activity happens outside the wire and security forces, along with Coalition partners are there to meet the threats head on. Discovery of weapons caches, launch sites, and threat information is cross channeled, and up channeled minute by minute, day to day, and weekly depending on the requirements and tempo.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Paul Dean

Members of the 407th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron S-2 Branch include (from left) Senior Master Sgt. Bradford Paslay, DoD linguist Samir "Sam" Abdallah and Tech. Sgt. Bobby Slay.

The success of the S-2 mission is directly proportional to the success of all the Defenders efforts at Ali. Operational units, patrols, security, and command and control functions achieve superiority *together* everyday. The ultimate objective for the S-2 is to make the battle space a more predictable arena for Defenders to operate. With operational capability full up, every one else can do their job and get home to their family and friends.

The Defender day never ends, and in the defense of everyone out here that makes the sacrifice, we wouldn't have it any other way.

Triple 7 isn't a new number: Insight into the past of Iraq's only permanantly based U.S. airlift squadron

This is the second part of a two-part series.

Col. William (Bill) Whitaker is a retired Air Force colonel living in Austin, Texas. The colonel served in what is now the 777th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron from 1964-1967. Last week's article outlined part of the 777th's history; this week adds to it and provides some more of his personal experiences.

The story is told in retired Col. Whitaker's words and continues the story of Operations Dragon Rouge/Dragon Noir (the 777th's patch is a double-dragon design):

Joint Task Force Leo was a U.S. Strike Command led by a U.S. Marine Corps Colonel. COMAFFOR was an Air Force lieutenant colonel from the 464th TAW with four C-130Es and five crews, including crews from the 777th TCS, and a maintenance team.

AOMARFOR was an Army first lieutenant or captain from the 82nd Airborne with a platoon that provided local security and put a squad on each aircraft on missions that went into non-secure areas, which was most missions.

The JTF was based at the civilian field at Leopoldville in a large hanger and some "motel" type buildings (no furniture) behind it. My crew did a tour with JTF LEO in August and September 1964. We did all sorts of things - evacuated missionaries, moved Congolese and mercenary troops, picked up recruits in the back country, moved military and relief supplies (ever experience 30,000 pounds of dried fish in the back of a C-130?)

On one mission supporting embassy personnel we airlifted a Peugeot sedan and a VW bug - find those in the -9!. No dual rails yet - all this was floor loaded. We evacuated 123 women and children out of one town by stacking their baggage in rows across the cargo compartment, seating them on these "benches" and putting a tie down strap across their lap. We had a little girl in a wheel chair tied down just forward of the ramp hinge.

Huey Long, the pilot of the lead aircraft on the Stanleyville drop, was later killed in an aircraft accident at CCK during Viet Nam. Last year we heard from his daughter, who never really knew her father and was trying to learn more about him, and came up with a picture of Huey with a boy from a missionary family we were evacuating on his lap "flying" the aircraft during a JTF LEO mission. He was a fine officer and an outstanding pilot.

Mack Secord "bumped his head" by going up to his aircraft in the dark and getting his hand next to, but not on, the crew door when he rotated the handle to open it. You really don't want to do that!

There's an interesting version of the mission from



Photos courtesy of retired Air Force Col. Bill Whitaker

The MacKay Trophy is presented at a wing parade at Pope AFB with Gen. McConnell, the Air Force Chief of Staff, presiding.



Then lieutenant Bill Whitaker with some Belgian gun jeeps.

the Belgian perspective at <http://www.army.mil/cmhp-g/documents/glasgow/glas-fm.htm>

My crew didn't fly on the initial Dragon Rouge deployment. We were supposed to rotate home that week and were left behind. A few days later, we were launched with an augmented crew to pick up parachutes for the Dragon Noir drop and a couple of armored jeeps at Marone, where a C-124 had broken down.

Continued next page:

Triple 7



C-130 tail number 63-7825, which is now based out of Ramstein Air Base, Germany, but is deployed to Ali Base with the 777th EAS.



A C-130 lands at Paulis airstrip to evacuate the last of the rescued hostages and begin withdrawal of Belgian paratroopers.



Belgian paratroopers ready to load: Ascension Island.



777 from page 12

We went straight through to Leopoldville in a 56 hour crew day.

We flew on the withdrawal from Paulis and were the last aircraft out of there. We redeployed the Belgians back along the same route we used coming down, staging through Ascension Island.

The MacKay Trophy
(<http://www.nasm.si.edu/research/aero/trophy/mackay.htm>)

was awarded to the 464th Troop Carrier Wing. The unit that did Dragon Rouge/Noir was a composite, rotation squadron commanded by Lt. Col. Bob Lindsay, the 777TCS/CC, and composed of crews from both the 776 and 777TCS. We always thought the trophy belonged to the two squadrons. It was presented at

a wing parade at Pope AFB with Gen. McConnell, the Air Force Chief of Staff, presiding.

In April 1965 the 777TCS deployed on 24 hours notice to Southeast Asia. We went to McDill Air Force Base, Fla., and unloaded the maintenance package for a F-4C squadron and spend the night. The next day we went to Hamilton Field, Calif., refueled and went to Hickam AFB, Hawaii. We spent 12 hours on the ground and went to Eniwetok Atoll, refueled and went to Clark AB, PI. Another 12 hours and we went to Ubon AB, Thailand, offloaded, and returned to Clark. After a couple of days of well earned rest, we moved up to Kadena AB, Okinawa, and set up a rotation squadron. While there we moved the 173rd Airborne Brigade, the first Army unit deployed to Viet Nam, to Vung Tao, hauled 750 pond bombs to the bases in Thailand,

and flew all sorts of other missions in and to/from SEA. The rotation units were eventually replaced by PCS units at CCK and Mactan.

I would expect that many of the people in the 777EAS are from Little Rock. I believe that the unit there is now the 463d TAW. I had a long and enjoyable association with that unit when it was at Dyess AFB. Starting in 1973 I was at various times: maintenance control officer ('73-'74 rated supplement tour); pilot in the 773TAS ('77-'78); wing chief of ops training (DOT) ('78); 463 field maintenance sq/CC ('79-'81); deputy commander for maintenance ('85-'89). I retired in September 1992 as the deputy chief of staff, logistics, for Hq AFSOC at Hurlburt Field, Fla.

Thanks for all you are doing over there. In the long run, I think it will make a difference.

Bill Whitaker

Bible: ABCD of places in Iraq

By Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Joseph Vu

407th Air Expeditionary Group chaplain

Just imagine that you can travel freely around Iraq to explore the Biblical heritage of the area. I hope that we can do that some day when Iraq is a free nation and people embrace democracy and order.

Until then I want to invite you to make an imaginary journey as you study a Bible.

Outside of Israel, Iraq is the nation that has the most names and places mentioned in the Bible.

The following list is an effort to list all possible places and it may not be all inclusive. Each place has a reference in the Bible and its current name if available.

Accad: one of the four cities found by Nimrod (Gen. 10:10)

Ararat: Noah's ark rested here, north of Iraq (Gen. 8:4)

Assyria: Kingdom with Capital in Niniveh, Mosul (2Kings 16: 7)

Babel: one of the four cities found by Nimrod (Gen. 11)

Babylon: Central Iraq (2Kings 20:12)

Baruch: Book of...composed during exile in Babylon

Beth-Eden: a city-state in north Mesopotamia (Amos 1:5)

Calneh: one of the four cities found by Nimrod (Gen. 1:10)

Chaldea: nation south of Mesopotamia (Jer. 50:10)

Chebar: a river in Chaldea (Eze. 1:1)

Cushan: land of Cush (Hab. 3:7)

Cuth: ancient city of Mesopotamia (2Kings 17:24)

Dinhabah: city of Edom (Gen. 36:32)

Edom: land belongs to descendants of Cush (Gen. 10:7)

Eden: Garden of...possible in two locations-north or south of Iraq where the Euphrates and Tigris rivers merged.



Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Joseph Vu

Elam: region around Zagros mountains (Gen. 10:22)

Elkosh: land of prophet Nahum, north of Iraq (Nah. 1:1)

Erech: one of the four cities found by Nimrod, AKA Uruk, present name is Warka-north of Ur (Gen. 10:10)

Euphrates: major river west side of Iraq (Gen. 2:10-14)

Gether: kingdom of Aram and Shem (Gen. 10:23)

Gihon: one of the four rivers in paradise (Gen. 2:13)

Gozan: a branch of Euphrates river (2Kings 19:12)

Habor: today's Khabur, north of Mosul (2Kings 17:6)

Halah: the Jews were in exile here, north Iraq (2Kings 17:6)

Hara: the Jews were in exile here, north Iraq (1Chr.5:26)

Haran: Abraham lived here after he left Ur (Gen. 11:31)

Havilah: region near Garden of Eden (Gen. 2:11)

Hiddekel: one of the four rivers of Eden (Gen. 2:14)

Idumea: Greek name for Edom (Isa. 34:5)

Kirkuk: with tombs of prophets Daniel, Isaiah and the eternal flame.

Magog: the country of king Gog in Ezekiel 38:2 (Rev. 20:8)

Masrekah: home place of king Samlah in Edom (Gen. 36:36)

Medes: see Media

Media: northeast of Iraq, land of Iranian Kurds-the Medes (Gen. 10:2)

Meshek: the land ruled by Gog (Eze. 38:2)

Mesopotamia: land between the Euphrates-Tigris Rivers (Gen. 24:10)

Mitanni: a kingdom north of Iraq ruled by the Hittite empire

Mosul: with tomb of prophet Jonah...ancient Niniveh.

Nahor: a city in northern Mesopotamia (Gen. 24:10)

Nahum: today's name Al Qosh, north of Mosul (The Book of Prophet Nahum)

Niniveh: today's Mosul (Book of Jonah)

Nod: region near Eden; Cain hid here after killing Cain (Gen. 4:16)

Nuzi: a town southwest of Kirkuk; archaeology found early versions of Jacob and Laban stories here.

Paradise: see Eden.

Pau: a city in Edom (Gen. 36:39)

Pison: one of the four rivers of Eden (Gen. 2:11)

Sela: a city of Edom (2Kings 14:7)

Shinar: lower plain of Babylon with Babel Tower Gen. 11:2)

Shoa: a region east of Babylon (Eze. 23:23)

Telassar: an Aramean city in northern Mesopotamia (Isa. 37:12)

Tel-melah: a colony of exilic Jews in Babylon (Ezr. 2:59)

Tigris: famous river in eastern Iraq (Dan. 10:4)

Ur: center of Sumerian civilization (2500-1950 BCE)

Dec. 17 (Saturday, 7 p.m.), Christmas Choir and "If Angels Were Mortal," a holiday play: Big Top



The 407th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Ali Base Fire and Rescue Department hosted a flag raising ceremony Dec. 3. to commemorate the first flag raising in the fire department compound. Volunteers from the 407th ECES erected the pole, designed and put together the flag pole base area.



(Above) Lt. Col. Richard Houghton, 407th ECES commander, talked to the squadron and visitors about the significance of the America flag flying in Iraq and especially the flag and its significance at a fire



The flag detail included Staff Sgt. Aaron Bunyea (right), Airmen 1st Class Kyle Henson (facing) and Bobby Roberts.



Photos by Tech. Sgt. Paul Dean

Airmen from the 407th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron in formation at the 407th ECES Ali Base Fire and Rescue Department's flag raising ceremony Dec. 3.



THE

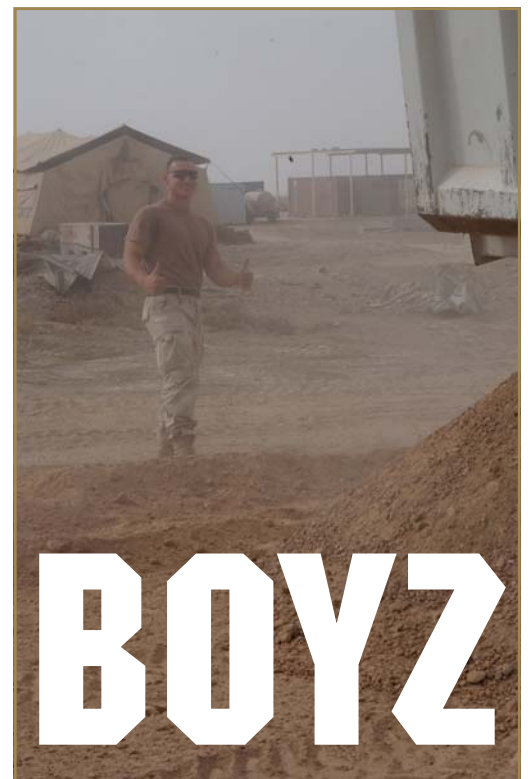


HEAVY

Photos by Tech. Sgt. Paul Dean



Making room for more fire department tents, finishing up Bedrock parking south, the big guys were throwing dust this week. Top left, clockwise: Senior Airman Patrick Riele in his grader; Airman 1st Class Michael Maskowski in a backhoe; Airman Riele digs his job; Staff Sgt. David Moats directs the Bedrock project.



BOYZ



Photos by Tech. Sgt. Paul Dean

The 407th Expeditionary Operations Support Squadron compound became much more comfortable this week. The Williams Pavilion and GDog Cadillac opened for business. Squadron were anxious to put them to use.



Master carpenter, construction supervisor and lead builder Senior Master Sgt. Darron Williams joined 407th EOSS commander Lt. Col. Charles Spencer cutting the ribbon to the pavilion.



(Left) Porta-Potty days finally ended as Colonel Spencer and 1st Lt. Robert Grimm cut the ribbon to civilization.



The day was also reason to celebrate the 407th AEG Sultans of Safety award winners, also from the EOSS.



The pavilion is open. Everybody's welcome.

Identify This



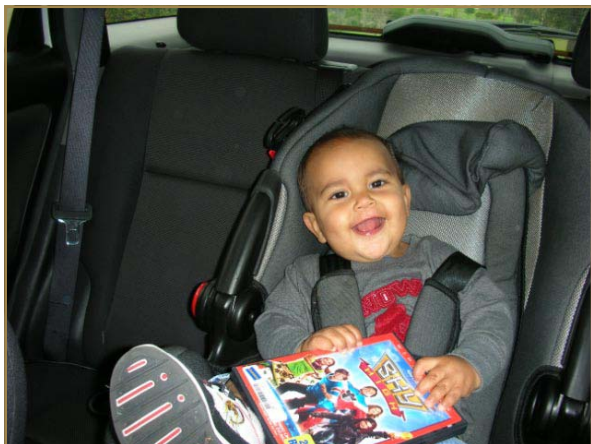
Do you know what this is?

If you can identify the object, e-mail the paper at Ali.Times@tlab.centaf.af.mil with "Identify This" in the subject block by 3 p.m. Thursday Dec. 15.

All correct entries will be placed in a box and three winners will be randomly selected at Combat Bingo (at the Big Top) at 7:30 p.m., Friday Dec. 16.

Participants do not have to attend bingo to win.

Winners will receive a complimentary T-shirt or coin from the 407th Expeditionary Services Squadron. The winners selected from those correctly identifying the mess kit pictured in the Nov. 25 *Ali Times* are: Staff Sgts. **Eric Haselby** (777 EAS), **Arley Paulus** (ECES) and Airman **Michael DeLong** (ECES).



family photo

Lincoln Bonzi, son of Senior Airman JoAnn Bonzi, ESFS, will be 1 year old Dec. 12.

*"Happy 1st Birthday Lincoln!
Mommy loves you and misses you
very much."*

Family News items (birthdays, anniversaries, weddings etc.) are due the public affairs office by 5 p.m. Monday the week of publication.
Call 445-2318 for more details.

407th AEG

Warrior of the Week



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Paul Dean

2nd Lt. Jessica Perez

Unit:

407th Air Expeditionary Group Staff

Duty title:

Chief of protocol

Home station:

Los Angeles Air Force Base, Calif.

Why other warriors say she's a warrior:

"You only get one chance to make a first impression and Lieutenant Perez leaves no doubt in any visitors mind that 407 AEG is a first-class unit. Many people don't know all the behind-the-scenes effort that goes into making a successful visit. Lieutenant Perez choreographs every detail from transportation, lodging, security, and scheduling to make sure we don't miss a beat. When guests depart Ali Base our motto of "No one comes close" is etched in their memory thanks to Lieutenant Perez and the job she does."

—Col. Don Palandech, 407th AEG commander

Most memorable Air Force experience:

"This deployment; I have learned so much about the Air Force in the short time I have been here. I have met the most wonderful people and have experienced so much; it has truly been a great learning and growing experience."

Family:

"My Mom and my sister are my life. I am the person I am today because of my Mom and all the sacrifices she has made. My sister is my heart; she's just awesome!"

Hobbies:

"Volleyball, softball, and spending time with my friends."

Serenity in the sand

faith-based services schedule

Worship is at the 407th Air Expeditionary Group **Oasis of Peace** chapel, unless otherwise noted. The Oasis is open 24 hours a day for prayer and reflection. For details on worship opportunities, or directions to worship locations, please call 445-2006.

FRIDAY

1 p.m., Muslim prayer/ service: (temporarily unav.)
6 p.m., Weekday Mass: Oasis
6:30 p.m., Jewish Service: Army Religious Activities Center (ARAC)
7 p.m., Bible Study: ARAC
7:30 p.m., Gospel choir rehearsal: Army Post Chapel (APC)
8 p.m., Alcoholics Anonymous: ARAC annex

SATURDAY

5:30 p.m., Catholic Confession: Oasis Office
6 p.m., Catholic Vigil Mass: Oasis
7 p.m., Kick the Camel (quit smoking) club: ARAC

SUNDAY

7:30 a.m., Catholic Confession: Oasis Office; Traditional Protestant Service: APC
8 a.m., Roman Catholic Mass: Oasis; Church of Christ Service: ARAC
8:30 a.m., Contemporary Protestant Service: Sapper Chapel; Sunday School: APC
9:30 a.m., Traditional Protestant Service: Oasis
10 a.m., Contemporary Protestant Service: APC; Latter Day Saints Service: ARAC
10:30 a.m., Roman Catholic Mass: Camp Cedar
1 p.m., Gospel Service: APC
7 p.m., Contemporary Worship Service: Oasis

SUNDAY (CONTINUED)

7:30 p.m., Contemporary Christian Service: Sapper Chapel
8 p.m., Alcoholics Anonymous: ARAC

MONDAY

6 p.m., Weekday Mass: Oasis
7 p.m., Protestant Bible Study: Sapper Chapel
7:30 p.m., Discipleship Bible study/fellowship: Oasis

TUESDAY

Noon, Alcoholics Anonymous: ARAC Annex
6 p.m., Weekday Mass: Oasis
8 p.m., Catholic Study: Oasis Annex; Combat Bible Study: ARAC

WEDNESDAY

6 p.m., Weekday Mass: Oasis
7 p.m., Spanish Bible Study: ARAC; Midweek Service Discussion: APC
7:30 p.m., Protestant Evening Service: APC; Mens Bible Study: APC
8 p.m., Purpose Driven Life Bible Study: Oasis Annex

THURSDAY

6 p.m., Weekday Mass: Oasis
6:30 p.m., Ladies Bible Study: ARAC
7 p.m., Latter Day Saints Study: ARAC
7:30 p.m., Workmans' Fellowship: RAC; A Man and His World Bible Study: Oasis

CRICKET MOVIE THEATER

at the Hot Spot

Today's times and movie descriptions for the week

King's Ransom (2005), 1 a.m., 1 p.m., *Anthony Anderson, Jay Mohr*, comedy/crime

Ladder 49 (2004), 3 a.m., 3 p.m., *Joaquin Phoenix, John Travolta*, action/drama

Ray (2004), 5 a.m., 5 p.m., *Jamie Foxx, Kerry Washington*, biography/drama

Mystery Alaska (1999), 7 a.m., 7 p.m., *Russell Crowe, Hank Azaria*, comedy/drama

Four Brothers (2005), 9 a.m., 9 p.m., *Mark Wahlberg, Tyrese Gibson*, action/crime

Double Jeopardy (1999), 11 a.m., 11 p.m., *Tommy Lee Jones, Ashley Judd*, thriller/drama

I Robot (2004), *Will Smith, Bridget Moynahan*, action/sci-fi (9 p.m. Big Top)

Herbie Fully Loaded (2005), *Lindsay Lohan, Michael Keaton*, adventure/comedy (2 p.m. Sunday, Big Top)

Get Rich or Die Tryin' (2005), *50 Cent, Adewale Akinnuoye-Agbaje*, action/crime (4 p.m. Sunday, Big Top)

Saturday

Ladder 49 1 a.m.
Ray 3 a.m.
I-Robot 5 a.m.
Mystery Alaska 7 a.m.
Four Brothers 9 a.m.
Double Jeopardy 11 a.m.
King's Ransom 1 p.m.
Ladder 49 3 p.m.
Ray 5 p.m.
I-Robot 7 p.m.
Mystery Alaska 9 p.m.
Four Brothers 11 p.m.

Sunday

Double Jeopardy 1 a.m.
King's Ransom 3 a.m.
Ladder 49 5 a.m.
Ray 7 a.m.
I-Robot 9 a.m.
Mystery Alaska 11 a.m.
Four Brothers 1 p.m.
Double Jeopardy 3 p.m.
King's Ransom 5 p.m.
Ladder 49 7 p.m.
Ray 9 p.m.
I-Robot 11 p.m.

Monday

Herby Fully Loaded 1 a.m.
Mystery Alaska 3 a.m.
Get Rich or Die Tryin' . 5 a.m.
Four Brothers 7 a.m.
Double Jeopardy 9 a.m.
King's Ransom 11 a.m.
Ladder 49 1 p.m.
Ray 3 p.m.
I-Robot 5 p.m.
Herby Fully Loaded 7 p.m.
Mystery Alaska 9 p.m.
Get Rich or Die Tryin' 11 p.m.

Tuesday

Four Brothers 1 a.m.
Double Jeopardy 3 a.m.
King's Ransom 5 a.m.
Ladder 49 7 a.m.
Ray 9 a.m.
I-Robot 11 a.m.
Herby Fully Loaded 1 p.m.
Mystery Alaska 3 p.m.
Get Rich or Die Tryin' . 5 p.m.
Four Brothers 7 p.m.
Double Jeopardy 9 p.m.
King's Ransom 11 p.m.

Wednesday

Ray 1 a.m.
Ladder 49 3 a.m.
I-Robot 5 a.m.
Herby Fully Loaded 7 a.m.
Mystery Alaska 9 a.m.
Get Rich or Die Tryin' 11 a.m.
Four Brothers 1 p.m.
Double Jeopardy 3 p.m.
King's Ransom 5 p.m.
Ladder 49 7 p.m.
Ray 9 p.m.
I-Robot 11 p.m.

Thursday

Mystery Alaska 1 a.m.
Herby Fully Loaded 3 a.m.
Get Rich or Die Tryin' . 5 a.m.
Four Brothers 7 a.m.
Double Jeopardy 9 a.m.
King's Ransom 11 a.m.
Ladder 49 1 p.m.
Ray 3 p.m.
I-Robot 5 p.m.
Herby Fully Loaded 7 p.m.
Mystery Alaska 9 p.m.
Get Rich or Die Tryin' 11 p.m.

Bedrock and beyond...

activities to keep you fit, happy and hungry for more

Today

5 p.m., **Tang Soo Do**: Muscle Beach (I)
6:30 p.m., **Spin**: Muscle Beach (I)
7 p.m., **"Star Wars 1 and 2"**: ARC
7:30 p.m., **Bingo**: Big Top
8 p.m., **Dominoes**: ARC
8 p.m., **Step Aerobics**: HOP
9 p.m., **"I Robot"**: Big Top

Saturday

2:30 p.m., **Pilates**: Muscle Beach (DVD)
5:30 p.m., **Absolute Abs**: Muscle Beach (I)
7 p.m., **Spades**: Big Top
7 p.m., **"Star Wars 3 and 4"**: ARC
7 p.m., **Video Game TNYs**: ARC
8:30 p.m., **Absolute Abs**: Muscle Beach (I)
9 p.m., **R&B/Hip Hop Night**: Big Top

Sunday

noon, **Tae Kwon Do**: Muscle Beach (I)
2 p.m., **"Herbie Fully Loaded"**: Big Top
2:30 p.m., **Pilates**: Muscle Beach (DVD)
2 p.m., **Suadron Tug-of-War**: Bedrock Courts
4 p.m., **"Get Rich or Die Tryin"**: Big Top
6 p.m., **Tae Kwon Do**: HOP
7 p.m., **Karaoke**: Big Top
7 p.m., **"Star Wars 5 and 6"**: ARC
8 p.m., **Darts**: ARC

Monday

5 p.m., **Tang Soo Do**: Muscle Beach (I)
6:30 p.m., **Spin**: Muscle Beach (I)
8 p.m., **Dodgeball TNY**: Bedrock Courts
8 p.m., **Ping Pong**: ARC
8 p.m., **Gestures**: Hot Spot
8 p.m., **Step Aerobics**: HOP

Tuesday

2:30 p.m., **Yoga**: Muscle Beach (DVD)
5:30 p.m., **Absolute Abs**: Muscle Beach (I)
6 p.m., **Tae Kwon Do**: HOP
8 p.m., **8-Ball**: Big Top
8 p.m., **Scrabble TNY**: ARC
8:30 p.m., **Absolute Abs**: Muscle Beach (I)

Wednesday

9 a.m., **Arm Wrestling Competition**: Muscle Beach
10 a.m., **Top Three**: Chapel Annex

2:30 p.m., **Pilates**: Muscle Beach (DVD)
5 p.m., **Focus 5-6**: Chapel Annex
6 p.m., **3-point Shootout**: Bedrock Courts
6:30 p.m., **Spin**: Muscle Beach (I)
6:30 p.m., **First Four**: Chapel Annex
7 p.m., **Wheel of Fortune**: Big Top
8 p.m., **Spades TNY**: ARC
8 p.m., **Step Aerobics**: HOP

Thursday

9:30 a.m., **Tae Kwon Do**: Muscle Beach (I)
5:30 p.m., **Absolute Abs**: Muscle Beach (I)
6 p.m., **Cardio mix**: HOP
8 p.m., **8-Ball**: ARC
8 p.m., **5-Card Stud**: Big Top
8:30 p.m., **Absolute Abs**: Muscle Beach (I)

(I)—Instructor

TNY—Tournament

HOP—House of Pain, Army Fitness Center

ARC—Army Recreation Center

Holiday Planner...

Dec. 17 (Saturday, 7 p.m.), Christmas Choir and "If Angels Were Mortal," a holiday play: Big Top

Dec. 19, 8 p.m., Win, lose or Draw: Big Top

Dec. 23 (Friday), 7:30 p.m., Christmas Combat Bingo and a movie, all prizes gift wrapped-winner's choice: Big Top

Dec. 24, 10 a.m., noon, 2 p.m., 4 p.m., Christmas movies: Big Top

Dec. 24, 6:30 p.m., Protestant Candlelight Service: Oasis Chapel

Dec. 24, 7 p.m., Christmas Eve in the Courtyard, Army MWR Courtyard/Adder Common—pageant, Christmas stories, tree lighting, carols, chaplain's message, units are welcome to take unit ornament for the tree

Dec. 24, 11:30 p.m., Catholic Mass: Oasis Chapel

Dec. 25, faith-based services according to regularly published schedule (previous page)

Dec. 25, 2:45 p.m., Christmas caroling and play ("The Plight Before Christmas," holiday/comedy), hot chocolate, cider, cookies and prizes: Big Top

Dec. 31 (Saturday), 8 p.m. to 1 a.m., New Year's Party, Casino Night and Dance (party favors and sparkling cider at midnight): Big Top

Dec. 31, 9 p.m., Protestant WatchNight Service: Army Chapel

Jan. 1, 2 p.m. and 4 p.m., movies; 7 p.m., karaoke: Big Top